THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) Exim Bank is the only specialised agency with respect to export credit in India. As such the question of bringing export credit agencies under one roof to fund exporters from the emerging markets does not arise.

Import of high value cars

1190. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to allow only individuals to import high-value cars without having to seek road worthiness or homologation certificates;

(b) whether it is also a fact that stock-and-sale dealers and car manufacturers are banned to import and sell cars in India without going through the approved process of Automotice Research Association of India; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) Import of new vehicles having an F.O.B. value of US$40000 or more have been exempt from the homologation condition if imported by (a) individuals (b) companies and firms importing under the EPCG scheme only. However, at the time of customs clearance, a Type Approval Certificate/COP of an international accredited agency from the country of origin shall be furnished. This Type Approval shall stipulate that the vehicle to be imported complies with all the ECE regulations for the complete vehicle. The stock-and-sale dealers and car manufacturers are required to produce a homologation certificate in compliance with the licensing conditions of the ITC(HS) Classification of Exports and Imports and CMVR Rules, 1989.

Rubber production

1191. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a huge gap between production and consumption of natural rubber;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to increase the yield per hectare and production of natural rubber?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) To increase the yield per hectare and production of natural rubber, Government of India through Rubber Board has been implementing a number of Plan schemes which aim at bringing more area under new rubber plantation, replanting of old and uneconomic rubber trees with high yielding clones, encouraging adoption of technology such as discriminatory fertiliser recommendation, disease control measures, soil and moisture conservation measures, rainguarding of rubber trees, use of stimulants with proper exploitation systems etc.

WTO Negotiations

1192. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how far India's efforts at the World Trade Organisation negotiations have been successful, so far, in protecting interests of the Indian farmers in the international market against the subsidies provided by the developed nations to the detriment of farmers of the developing countries;

(b) whether any collective efforts have been made by the developing countries to protect interests of their farmers under the WTO regime and if so, with what results so far; and

(c) the steps being further taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) In the on-going negotiations on the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on Agriculture, India has made concerted efforts with like-minded developing countries, including in the G-20 alliance on agriculture and the G-33 alliance on Special Products, in order to ensure, *inter alia*, that the elements and principles incorporated in the agreed framework on agriculture lead to substantial reductions in trade-distorting domestic subsidies provided to their farm sector largely by the developed countries, a credible end date for elimination of their export subsidies, and substantial market access improvements for products of export interest to developing countries. Moreover, consistent with